in order to complement the United States series in the Smithsonian's collection.

A new display featuring the Moritz Wormser Memorial Exhibit of the American Numismatic Association was arranged in 1962 at the Smithsonian Institution, using a large "semi-automatic" display case. This specially designed case is provided with forty movable trays, each measuring 2½ by 44 inches and suspended between continuous chain devices. By punching either of two electrical contacts imparting forward or backward motion to an electrically driven system of gears, the visitor may examine any tray in which he may be interested. The introduction of this display method has promoted increased interest in the exhibit and notably greater "visitor participation." A world map above the exhibit case adds meaning to the display.

The plans for the establishment of the Association's own numismatic museum in Colorado Springs led to a reappraisal of the status of the Moritz Wormser Memorial Exhibit. Arrangements have been made for its release by the United States National Museum as soon as the reinstallation of the exhibit in the new location is assured. The Division of Numismatics has made plans, in cooperation with Charles Wormser, for another exhibit dedicated to the memory of his father, that great numismatist who did so much for the development of numismatics at the National Museum and for the long and fruitful cooperation between the Smithsonian Institution and the American Numismatic Association.

Note: This summary is based on reports published in *The Numismatist* and on letters in the National Museum's files.

Authorized by Congress

Our Diamond Anniversary Medal

By

Arthur Sipe, LM 446, First Vice President

THE idea of a medal to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the founding of the American Numismatic Association was discussed by many members as well as by the A.N.A. medals committee early in 1965. A resolution was adopted by the board of governors prior to the Houston convention to the effect that President P. K. Anderson appoint a committee on medal design, with the author as chairman, to prepare or have prepared designs for the proposed anniversary medal; such designs to be presented to the board at the Houston convention in August, 1965. It was further voted that the budget be amended to include a sum of $500 for this committee to carry out its assignment.

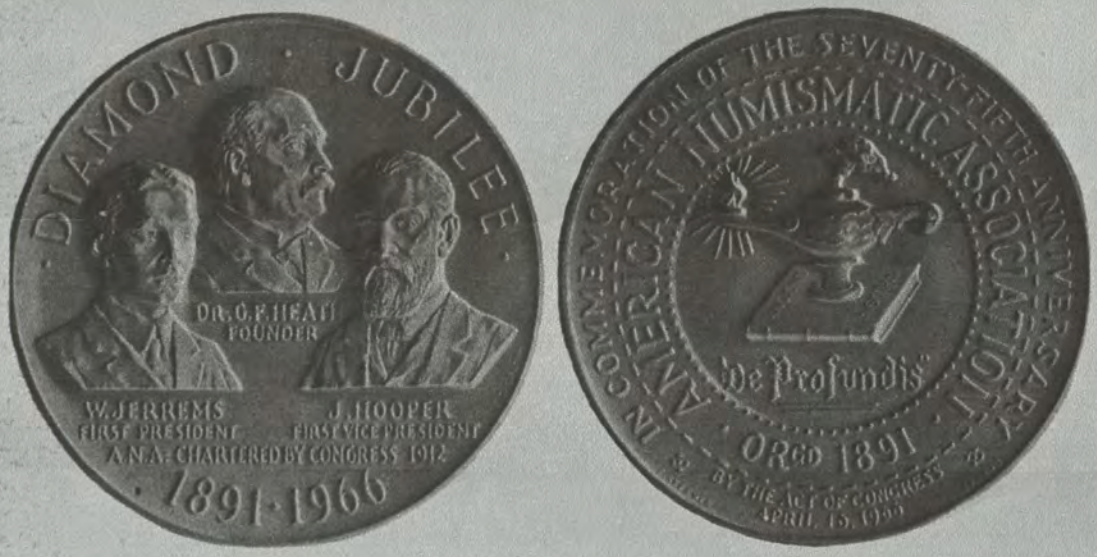
The committee, composed of Past President M. Vernon Sheldon and former Board Member George M. Todd, discussed several suggested designs at Houston and again at the MANA convention in Richmond in October. Vernon Sheldon had in mind a montage type of medal and this was considered at Richmond. At that meeting, the board directed First Vice President Sipe to proceed with the selection of the final design and the production of the medal. At the close of the MANA convention, Honorable Eva Adams, Director of the Mint, S. W. Freeman, chairman of our Washington Legislative Advisory committee, and President Matt H. Rothert agreed to petition the United States Congress for a congregational medal.

Following the board's Richmond meeting, Vernon Sheldon provided several designs for both the obverse and reverse which the board considered carefully and for which it is grateful. After the first of the year he resigned from the

committee due to ill health, and Rear Admiral Oscar Dodson was appointed to fill the position.

A petition was prepared and presented to Senator John L. McClellan of Arkansas and Congressman Wilbur Mills of the same State, asking for a congressional medal in commemoration of the 75th anniversary of our founding. The proper bills were instituted and presented to both bodies of Congress. They passed April 5, 1966, and President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the bill into law on April 16.

Designers at the Philadelphia Mint presented a number of sketches, based on the committee's preliminary work, for both the obverse and reverse of the medal, from which the members of the board made the final selection by a mail vote. The obverse shows a portrait of Dr. George F. Heath, Founder, between William Jerrems, first President on the left and Joseph Hooper, first Vice President on



The A.N.A. Diamond Anniversary Medal, authorized by Congress as a national medal. Struck in bronze in 3 inch diameter, it is available from the Association at $5.00, postpaid.

the right. Above the portraits is DIAMOND JUBILEE, with the dates 1891-1966 near the lower edge and above the dates A.N.A. CHARTERED BY CONGRESS 1912.

The reverse features the first A.N.A. seal as designed by Col. Joseph Hooper, with the legends AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION • ORGD 1891 and IN COMMEMORATION OF THE SEVENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY + BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS / APRIL 16, 1966 in concentric circles around the seal. Before the final models were prepared, the designs were approved by the Fine Arts Commission in Washington, D. C.

The designs were executed by Chief Engraver Frank Gasparro of the United States Mint; mint engraver Edgar Z. Steever having assisted in the final design and execution of the reverse. The board chose a three-inch size to be struck in bronze by the Philadelphia Mint. By special effort, the mint was able to produce a number of the medals and get them to Chicago so that they could be offered first at the Diamond Anniversary convention in August. The medals sell at $5.00 each and may be ordered by mail from A.N.A. Executive Director Jack R. Koch, P. O. Box 2366, Colorado Springs, Colo. 80901.

The November, 1898, issue of *The Numismatist* contains, pp. 273-276, a resume of the formation and history of the American Numismatic Association to that date. It lists officers, current and previous, and some interesting and revealing comments by J. A. Heckelman, chairman of the board of trustees, dated Aug. 17, 1898. Among other correspondence received, "some complaints" are noted.